

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 00930 052217Z

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ACTION SY-05

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R 052130Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TOSECSTATE WASHDC 9046

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJ: MSG DETACHMENTS FOR MONTREAL AND TORONTO

REF: OTTAWA 4379 DATED 11/21/75; STATE 300630 OF 12/22/75

1. AFTER HAVING VISITED THE CONGENS IN TORONTO AND MONTREAL I WISH TO REINFORCE THIS EMBASSY'S REQUEST CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MSG DETACHMENTS AT BOTH POSTS. I FEEL THE JUSTIFICATION FOR THESE ADDITIONAL DETACHMENTS FOR OUTWEIGHS THE DEPARTMENT'S REASONING IN ITS REFUSAL. WHILE I CAN UNDERSTAND THE DEPARTMENT'S RELUCTANCE TO ESTABLISH A PRECEDENT IN PROVIDING SUCH VOERAGE TO CONSULATES, I FEEL THE PROTECTION OF OUR PERSONNEL AND FACILITIES SHOULD BE OF PRIMARY CONCERN. AS I UNDERSTNAD IT, EACH POST RECEIVES AN ESTIMATED 600-700 VISITORS AND/OR VISA APPLICANTS EACH DAY MOST OF WHOM ARE THIRD COUNTRY NATIONALS. WITH SUCH AN INFLUX OF PEOPLE INTO THESE CONSULATES EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO PROVIDE REASONABLE SECURITY FOR THESE OFFICES. CONSIDERATION SHOULD ALSO BE GIVEN TO THE FACT BOTH CONGENS ARE LOCATED IN LARGE METROPOLITAN AREAS EACH OF WHICH EXCEEDS 2 1/2 MILLION PEOPLE IN POPULATION OF A HETROGENEOUS MIXTURE AS EXISTS THROUGHOUT CANADA. THESE VARIOUS NATIONALITIES, SUCH AS THE GREEKS AND CYPRIOTS, HAVE IN THE PAST STAGED DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST EACH POST TO PROTEST U.S. FOREIGN POLICY. IT SHOULD FURTHER BE POINTED OUT EVEN THOUGH TORONTO AND MONTREAL ARE DESIGNATED AS CONSULATES GENERAL, THEY ARE LARTER IN SIZE AND PERSONNEL THAN MANY OF OUR EM-

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BASSIES WHICH HAVE MSG DETACHMENTS. STILL ANOTHER

CONSIDERATION IN PLACING MARINES AT BOTH LOCATIONS
IS THE PLANNED INSTALLATION OF A COMMUNICATIONS CEN-
TER IN TORONTO AND IMPROVED COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT
IN MONTREAL.

2. I BELIEVE THESE FACTORS AND THE JUSTIFICATION CON-
TAINED IN THE EMBASSY'S INITIAL REQUEST SHOULD BE REA-
ASSESSED AND A FAVORABLE DECISION BE MADE IN ASSIGNING
MARINES TO THESE POSTS.
ENDERS

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